

was unable to vote on June 29, 2021 for these reasons. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 189; NAY on Roll Call No. 190; NAY on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; NAY on Roll Call No. 193; YEA on Roll Call No. 194; NAY on Roll Call No. 195; and NAY on Roll Call No. 196.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COLONEL
VANG FONG

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Colonel Vang Fong. Vang passed away on February 17, 2021 in Fresno County. Vang was a husband, father, and grandfather and a leader in the Secret War in Laos.

Vang was born on January 1, 1944 in Rhawv Zeb, Xieng Khouang, Laos to Cheu Xang Vang and Nai Lor. He was one of eight children. In the year of 1960, Vang left school at the age of 12 to join the CIA's Secret Army in Laos. He was chosen by the late Brigadier General Vang Pao in 1962 to attend military training at Savannakhet. It was there that Vang obtained the CCB/Premier Degree from Pham Khaum.

Vang was stationed to Long Cheng, Laos. After hard work and dedication to protect all around him, he quickly rose rank and he was promoted to W-4 Chief Warrant Officer. After a brief period as W-4 Chief Warrant Officer, he was named to Lieutenant Colonel in 1964. Nine years later, he was appointed to represent the second military region at Luang Prabang, Laos.

His love for his family encouraged him to make a decision on the subject of moving. He moved in 1980 and his family resettled in Hamilton, Montana. After living in Montana, he then had everyone move to Huntington Beach, California to reunite with the rest of his family. This move inspired Vang to be active in whatever community he resided in. He was a member of the Lao Veterans of America; incorporated since 1989, and the Special Guerrilla Units (SGU) Veterans and Families, incorporated since 2009.

Even while Vang worked alongside the late General Vang Pao to ensure equality, social justice and opportunities for Hmong families in America, he still enjoyed being around his family. In 1964 he married Mylee Vang, and in 1968 he married Kao Lee. Throughout his life, he raised 10 children.

Vang was well-respected in the Hmong community for his courage and leadership in protecting many people during the Secret War in Laos. Vang participated in numerous events. He participated in the Central Valley Veterans Day Parade in Fresno, California, where he settled for the remainder of his life. His love for his culture was evident and admirable to many in the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Colonel Vang Fong. His service and contributions to the Nation and State of California will not be forgotten. He will be fondly remembered in the Central

Valley. I join his family and friends in celebrating Vang's life.

MS. ANN WHITAKER

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ann Whitaker for her upcoming 50th anniversary with the Annie Gardner Foundation in Graves County, Kentucky.

Ann began her career with the Annie Gardner Foundation on July 5, 1971, as an administrative assistant. She has helped so many in the Mayfield community, going above and beyond to assist the less fortunate in their times of need. Those who are lucky enough to know Ann describe her as dependable, compassionate, and sincere.

Anyone who spends half a century with one organization is incredibly dedicated and genuinely loves what they do. Ann is loved by all of those in her community, and I am honored to represent her in Congress.

Once again, I congratulate Ann on this achievement. I look forward to hearing about all the wonderful work she will continue to do in her role at the Annie Gardner Foundation and beyond.

IN HONOR OF RAYANN DIONNE

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rayann Dionne, who is the 2021 recipient of the NH Coastal Adaption Workgroup's Climate Champion Award. The CAW Climate Champion Award is given to members of the Seacoast community who are powerful advocates for climate-related research and adaptation work. For 12 years, Rayann served as the Conservation Coordinator for the Town of Hampton where she championed climate adaptation efforts. In addition, Rayann also serves as Vice President and Treasurer of the Seabrook-Hampton Estuary Alliance.

Rayann has been an invaluable part of the Hampton community, overseeing complex issues including conservation efforts, stormwater management, and floodplain management. Hampton has several miles of coastline and an ecologically critical estuary, and Rayann was critical in working with FEMA to enroll the town of Hampton in FEMA's Community Rating System. She has been able to engage all members of the community in her efforts including by working with local students on projects to maintain the health of the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary, as well as coordinating an auction of rain barrels painted by local middle school and high school students.

Throughout her career, Rayann has been a fierce advocate for climate resilience. A leader on environmental issues, she has overseen both the designing and running of workshops

and community events for Hampton residents. From beach clean-ups to snowshoe tours and the installation of a rain garden at the local library, Rayann has dedicated herself to improving the Seacoast community by always bringing others into her work.

Rayann Dionne has made an immeasurable impact on her local community and the state of New Hampshire not only through her concrete actions but also through the energy and positivity she brings to all her endeavors. Foregrounding the importance of climate action, Rayann has served her community in a way that warrants our recognition. Her continued involvement in her work puts her community, and the entire state of New Hampshire, on a pathway towards a more climate-resilient future.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I thank Rayann for her decades of enthusiastic dedication to our state. The Granite State is a better place because of the public service of Rayann Dionne.

IN RECOGNITION OF ATLANTIS
YACHT CLUB'S 60TH COMMISSIONING DAY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Atlantis Yacht Club of Monmouth Beach, New Jersey on its 60th Commissioning Day. As its officers and members gather to celebrate this milestone, I would like to join with them in honoring its history and spirit.

Upon returning from World War II, a group of veterans and their families from Barnegat Bay to Englewood would meet up with each other at various locations along the eastern shoreline from New Jersey to Connecticut. Boating became a relaxing pastime for these families and provided an outlet from their memories of the war. In 1961, the group founded the club to further the fellowship that their boating engagements had developed.

Begun at rented docks and an old Victorian home converted into apartments in Sea Bright, New Jersey, the club outgrew its first location after just three years. Needing a larger location, the group constructed its new home in Monmouth Beach, New Jersey. The area was marsh and needed dredging, fill, and construction to transform it into a beautiful club house, pool and docks. The extensive work was completed with each founding member contributing what he could in his area of expertise. The Atlantis Yacht Club welcomed its members to its current home in Monmouth Beach in 1968.

Since then, its membership has continued to grow, but the kinship remains. The club worked together to rebuild after Superstorm Sandy and again to remain operational during the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout its 60 years, the Atlantis Yacht Club has provided a welcoming and inclusive club for families of all backgrounds to enjoy and share.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in honoring the rich history of the Atlantis Yacht Club and celebrating its 60th Commissioning Day.